

"On Memorial Day we honor not only those brave men and women who served in past conflicts, but also those who are serving today. The ongoing conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq have made war a reality for a whole new generation of Americans. I offer my heartfelt thanks to all those who have made difficult sacrifices on behalf of our country.

"I am honored to serve in a position where I can work directly on critical benefits funding issues that affect all veterans. Just last week, I led a fight in Congress to scale back tax cuts for millionaires in order to add critical veterans health care funds. I was specifically trying to add funds for mental health and prosthetics - two areas of veterans health care that have been especially in-demand during this war. Though my amendment failed I will continue this fight as this veterans spending bill makes its way through Congress this summer.

"I also wrote language into this bill to create a first-in-the-nation public-private partnership to provide a funding source for a state sponsored veterans cemetery at Fort Ord and to guarantee that California will receive federal funds to cover construction costs as soon as they apply to the State Cemetery Grant Program. Building a cemetery on the former Fort Ord is an issue near and dear to all of our hearts, and I feel confident that this new public-private partnership will help make the dream of a veterans cemetery at Fort Ord a reality.

"As we pause this weekend to mark Memorial Day, I assure you that I will continue to work on behalf of our military personnel and veterans."

**Congressman Farr will participate in the following events on Monday, May 29th:**

10:00 - 11:00 am

American Legion Post 31 Memorial Day Celebration

Location: Garden of Memories Park, Salinas

1:00 - 2:30 pm

Naval Postgraduate School/Monterey History & Arts Assoc. Memorial Day Celebration

Location: Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey